

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A surface tension control agent for coating materials comprising:

a fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers consisting of:

a fluorine-substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (A);

an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer having an alkyl group selected from the group consisting of lauryl and stearyl, or n-butyl acrylate monomer (B); and

a hydroxyl group- or ether group -substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (C); and

optionally at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride,

wherein the ratio of (A) to {(B)+(C)} in the copolymer is in the range of 3-60 parts by weight to 40-97 parts by weight.

2. (Currently Amended) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer is a copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

the monomer (A);

the monomer (B);

the monomer (C); and

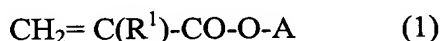
the at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) ~~selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride.~~

3. (Original) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein a weight-average molecular weight of the fluorine-containing (meth)acrylate copolymer is in the range of 1,500-300,000.

4. (Original) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (A) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having a perfluoro alkyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms.

5. (Previously Presented) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the copolymerization is block copolymerization.

6. (Previously Presented) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one kind of a hydroxyl group- or ether group - substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate represented by the following formula (1)



(where R^1 is hydrogen atom or methyl group; -A is a hydroxyl alkyl group with 2-4 carbon atoms or an alkyl substituent thereof, an alkyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkyl polyalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkenyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group-substituted polyalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms).

7. (Currently Amended) A coating material comprising:
a surface tension control agent for coating materials, which comprises a fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers consisting of of:

a fluorine-substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (A);

an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer having an alkyl group selected from the group consisting of lauryl and stearyl, or n-butyl acrylate monomer (B); ~~and~~

a hydroxyl group- or ether group -substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (C); and

at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride,
wherein the ratio of (A) to {(B)+(C)} in the copolymer is in the range of 3-60 parts by weight to 40-97 parts by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the fluorine-containing (meth)acrylate type copolymer is a copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

the monomer (A);

the monomer (B);

the monomer (C); and

the at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) ~~selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride.~~

9. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer is in the range of 1,500-300,000.

10. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the monomer (A) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having a perfluoroalkyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms.

11. (Previously Presented) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the copolymerization is block copolymerization.

12. (Previously Presented) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one kind of hydroxyl group- or ether group -substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate represented by the following formula (1)



(where R^1 is hydrogen atom or methyl group; -A is a hydroxy alkyl group with 2-4 carbon atoms or an alkyl substituent thereof, an alkyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkyl

group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkyl polyalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkenyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group-substituted polyalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms).

13. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the coating material further comprises an acrylic resin.